

1. ~~Mr Muston~~
2. ~~Mr Morley Parry~~
3. ~~Mr Perry~~

B.415
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WITHNELL URBAN DISTRICT COUNCIL.

REPORT OF THE

MEDICAL OFFICER OF HEALTH

For the Year 1968.

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WITHNELL URBAN DISTRICT COUNCIL

To the Chairman and Members of the
Withnell Urban District Council.

Mr. Chairman and Members,

Annual Report

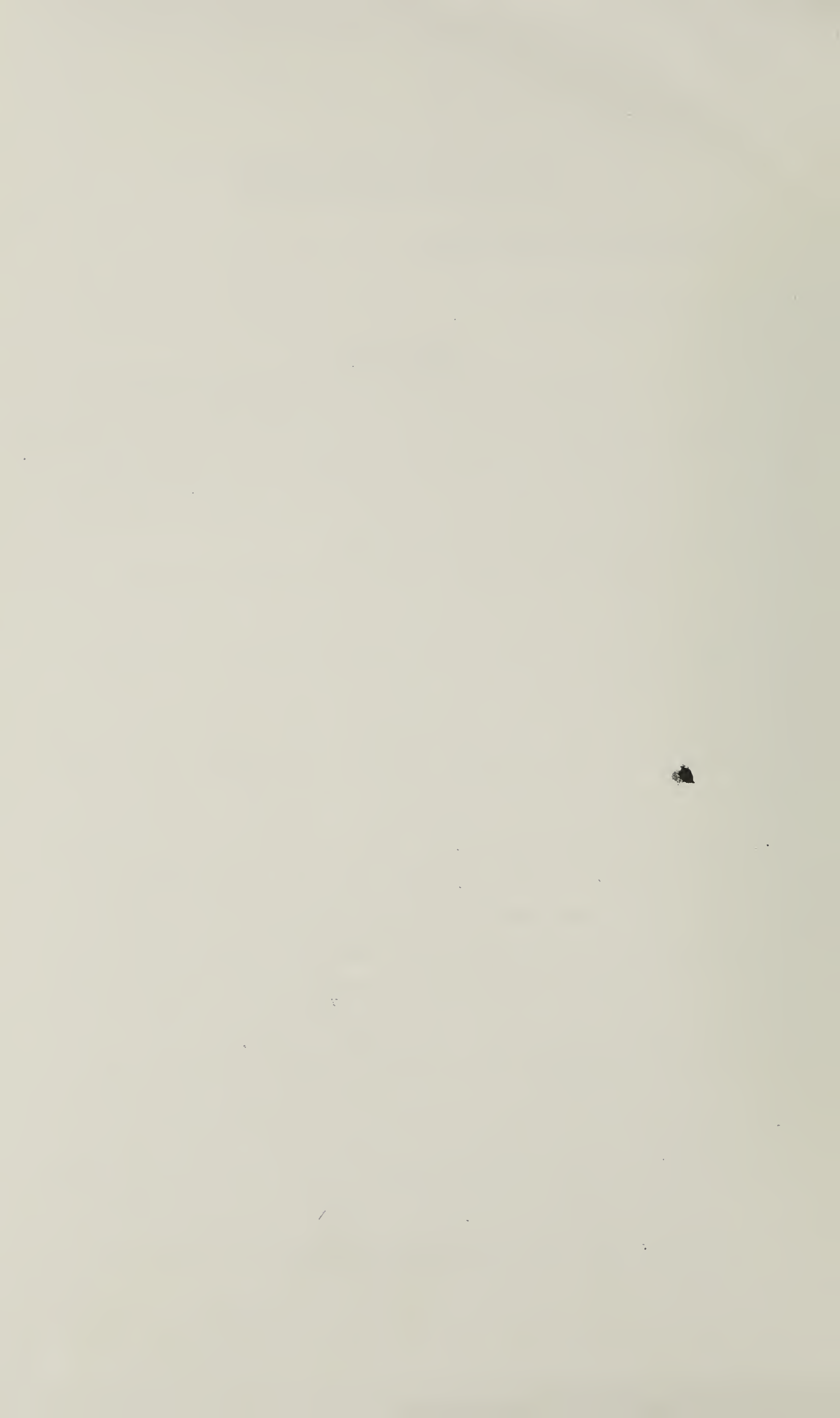
I have pleasure in presenting the Annual Report on the Health and Sanitary Circumstances of the District for the year ended 31st December, 1968.

The population of the District at mid-year 1968 was 3,000 which is 100 more than the figure for the previous year. These estimates seem to be more realistic than in previous years.

The number of live births assigned to the District for 1968 was 65, which is 21 more than in the previous year and gives a crude birth rate of 21.7 (adjusted 26.7) per 1,000 population. These rates compare very favourably with the rates for England and Wales and the County of Lancashire which were respectively 16.9 and 17.3 (adjusted 17.8). The ratio of the local adjusted birth rate to the national rate was 1.58.

The number of deaths assignable to the District was 52 which is 12 more than in the previous year. The crude death rate for the District was, therefore, 17.3 (adjusted 14.2). The death rates for England and Wales and Lancashire were 11.9 and 12.28 (adjusted 13.26) respectively. The ratio of the local adjusted death rate to the national rate was 1.19.

The Registrar General provides a table giving the causes of death in age groups, and this table is reproduced in the Report. The International Classification of Diseases and Causes of Death has been revised and the table uses the new classification which makes accurate comparison with the previous year's figures difficult in some instances. It will be seen from the table, however, that 26 of the 52 deaths occurred in persons 75 years of age or over. A further 12 were between 65 and 75 years of age. These two groups together accounted for 73% of the




total deaths. Comparing the causes of death with those in the previous year it is found that deaths from heart diseases numbered 13, which is 3 more and of these 12 were due to ischaemic (coronary) heart disease which also is 3 more than in 1967. Malignant diseases accounted for 9 deaths which is an increase of 2, lung cancer being responsible in 2 cases which is the same as in the previous year. Cerebrovascular disease (strokes) caused 11 deaths as compared with 6. Influenza, pneumonia, bronchitis and emphysema together accounted for 7 deaths as compared with 4. There was one death due to pulmonary tuberculosis - a man between 65 and 75 years of age. There were no deaths from tuberculosis in 1967. The number of deaths of infants under one year of age was two as compared with three in the previous year. The number of still births was one in both years. It is pleasing to note again that there were no deaths arising from child birth.

No notifications of infectious diseases were received during the year but it is difficult to believe that there were, in fact, no cases of notifiable infectious disease in the District. In the previous year two cases of measles were notified. During the year 1968 certain important changes were made regarding notification procedure, in the list of notifiable diseases and in the provisions applicable to each disease. These changes were brought about by the coming into operation of the Public (Infective Jaundice) Regulations 1968 and on 15th June, 1968, the Health Services and Public Health Act, 1968 (Part III) and the Public Health (Infectious Diseases) Regulations, 1968 on 1st October, 1968. Medical Practitioners have been informed of these changes.

The introduction during 1968 of a general scheme of vaccination against measles warrants mention here. Vaccination against measles involves only one injection and is available from general practitioners, child welfare centres and school clinics for children 1 - 15 years of age. Parents are urged to take advantage of this protection for children who have not had measles but it must be stressed that vaccination and immunisation against smallpox, diphtheria, poliomyelitis, tetanus and whooping cough are still as vitally important as ever.

Turning now to other matters it has to be noted that Mr. C.H. Carr resigned in August, 1968 from his appointment as Public Health Inspector etc.



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on obtaining another post. During Mr. Carr's period of office with the Council I was impressed with the enthusiastic manner in which he carried out his many duties. He was succeeded in September by Mr. R. Readfern who is proving to be a very capable officer. This changeover has unfortunately resulted in my being unable to locate some of the information for this Report.

During the year an officer of the County Medical Officer's staff commenced what is known as a periodic survey of the environmental health services of the District. The survey had not been completed at the end of the year.

The Council are well aware of the need for improvement in regard to sewage disposal arrangements and in fact a firm of Consultant Engineers has been engaged with a view to the construction of new sewage works to serve the District. The water supply also has been a cause of concern for many years regarding the need for a modern treatment plant.

Other aspects of the environment affecting health are also requiring attention and there would seem to be a need for more routine inspections, a housing survey and more attention to food hygiene. The difficulties in achieving these worthy objectives with a limited staff and financial resources are fully appreciated.

In conclusion, I should like to express my gratitude to the Chairman and Members of the Council for their continued confidence in me.

Your obedient servant,

J. WALKER

Medical Officer of Health.

STATISTICS AND SOCIAL CONDITIONS OF THE AREA

The area of the District is 4,190 acres. The population figure at the 1961 Census was 2,849. For 1968 the Registrar General calculated the population as 3,000. The Rateable Value was £91,393 and a penny rate produced £320.

The Chief industries are Quarrying, Saw Mills and Cotton Mills, brickmaking, agriculture and poultry keeping. There has been no change in social conditions.

VITAL STATISTICS

<u>BIRTHS</u>	<u>Male</u>	<u>Female</u>	<u>Total</u>
<u>LIVE BIRTHS</u>			
Legitimate	31	31	62
Illegitimate	2	1	3
Live Birth Rate per 1,000 population			
Crude	21.7		
Adjusted	26.7	(England & Wales 16.9)	
Illegitimate Live Births (per cent of total Live Births)			4.6.
<u>STILL BIRTHS</u>			
Legitimate	1	NIL	1
Illegitimate	NIL	NIL	NIL
Still Birth Rate per 1,000 Live & Still Births			15 (England & Wales 14.8)
Total Live & Still Births.			66
<u>INFANT DEATHS.</u>			
Legitimate	1	1	2
Illegitimate	NIL	NIL	NIL
INFANT MORTALITY RATE PER 1,000 LIVE BIRTHS	31	(England & Wales 18.3)	
NEO NATAL MORTALITY RATE (deaths under 4 weeks of age) PER 1,000 LIVE BIRTHS	15	(England & Wales 12.4)	
EARLY NEO NATAL MORTALITY RATE (deaths under 1 week of age) PER 1,000 LIVE BIRTHS	15	(England & Wales 10.6)	
PERINATAL MORTALITY RATE (still births & deaths under 1 week of age) PER 1,000 TOTAL BIRTHS	30	(England & Wales 24.7)	
<u>MATERNAL DEATHS</u> (including abortion)	NIL		
MATERNAL MORTALITY RATE PER 1,000 LIVE & STILL BIRTHS	NIL	(England & Wales 0.24)	

<u>DEATHS</u>	<u>Male</u>	<u>Female</u>	<u>Total</u>
<u>ALL CAUSES</u>	29	23	52

Death Rate per 1,000 estimated population. Crude 17.3 Adjusted 14.2
(England & Wales 11.9)

<u>RESPIRATORY T.B.</u>	1	NIL	1
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Rate per 1,000 estimated population 0.33 (England & Wales 0.030)

<u>MALIGNANT NEOPLASMS</u>	3	4	7
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Rate per 1,000 estimated population 3 (England & Wales 2.32)

COMPARABILITY FACTORS.

BIRTHS 1.23

DEATHS 0.82

COMPARATIVE TABLE OF VITAL STATISTICS
CRUDE RATE

YEAR	Live Births		Deaths all causes		Still-Births		Maternal Mortality		Infant total under 1 yr.		Mortality Neo-Natal under 4 weeks.	
	No Registered	Rate per 1,000 population.	No Registered.	Rate per 1,000 population.	No Registered.	Rate per 1,000 Total Births.	No Registered.	Rate per 1,000 Total Births	No Registered	Rate per 1,000 Live Births.	No Registered	Rate per 1,000 Live Births.
1968	65	21.7	52	17.3	1	15	NIL	NIL	2	31	1	15
1967	44	15.2	40	13.8	1	22	NIL	NIL	3	68	3	68
1966	58	21.0	50	18.1	2	33.3	NIL	NIL	2	34.5	1	17.2
1965	36	12.9	49	17.6	1	27.0	NIL	NIL	NIL	NIL	NIL	NIL
1964	45	16.1	28	10.0	NIL	NIL	NIL	NIL	NIL	NIL	NIL	NIL
1963	35	12.3	40	14.0	1	27.8	NIL	NIL	NIL	NIL	NIL	NIL

ADJUSTED Live Birth Rate (comparability factor 1.23) 26.7 per 1,000 est.pop.

ADJUSTED Death Rate (comparability factor 0.82) 14.2 per 1,000 est.pop.

ENGLAND & WALES.

Live Birth Rate 16.9 per 1,000 home population.

Death Rate 11.9 per 1,000 home population.

CAUSES OF DEATH AT DIFFERENT PERIODS OF LIFE DURING 1968

<u>CAUSE OF DEATH</u>	Sex	Total All Ages	Birth- 45 yrs.	45 years	55 years	65 years	75 years and over.
B5 TUBERCULOSIS OF RESPIRATORY SYSTEM	M	1	-	-	-	1	-
	F	-	-	-	-	-	-
B19(2) MALIGNANT NEOPLASM - LUNG, BRONCHUS	M	2	-	-	1	-	1
	F	-	-	-	-	-	-
B19(6) OTHER MALIGNANT NEOPLASMS, ETC.	M	2	-	-	1	-	1
	F	5	-	-	-	1	4
B20 BENIGN & UNSPECIFIED NEOPLASMS	M	-	-	-	-	-	-
	F	1	-	-	-	-	1
B21 DIABETES MELLITUS	M	-	-	-	-	-	-
	F	1	-	1	-	-	-
B46(1) OTHER ENDOCRINE ETC. DISEASES	M	-	-	-	-	-	-
	F	1	-	-	1	-	-
B46(4) OTHER DISEASES OF NERVOUS SYSTEM, ETC.	M	-	-	-	-	-	-
	F	1	-	-	1	-	-
B28 ISCHAEMIC HEART DISEASE	M	9	-	1	2	3	3
	F	3	-	-	1	1	1
B29 OTHER FORMS OF HEART DISEASE	M	-	-	-	-	-	-
	F	1	-	-	-	-	1
B30 CEREBROVASCULAR DISEASE	M	6	-	-	-	3	3
	F	5	-	-	-	1	4
B46(5) OTHER DISEASES OF CIRCULATORY SYSTEM	M	2	-	-	-	-	2
	F	1	-	-	-	-	1
B31 INFLUENZA	M	1	-	-	-	-	1
	F	1	-	-	-	-	1
B32 PNEUMONIA	M	1	-	-	-	-	1
	F	3	1	-	-	1	1
B33(1) BRONCHITIS AND EMPHYSEMA	M	1	-	-	-	1	-
	F	-	-	-	-	-	-
B33(2) ASTHMA	M	1	1	-	-	-	-
	F	-	-	-	-	-	-
B46(8) OTHER DISEASES, GENITO-URINARY SYSTEM	M	1	-	-	1	-	-
	F	-	-	-	-	-	-
B42 CONGENITAL ANOMALIES	M	1	1	-	-	-	-
	F	-	-	-	-	-	-
BE48 ALL OTHER ACCIDENTS	M	1	1	-	-	-	-
	F	-	-	-	-	-	-
<u>TOTAL ALL CAUSES</u>	M	29	3	1	5	8	12
	F	23	1	1	3	4	14

GENERAL PROVISIONS OF HEALTH SERVICES FOR THE AREA

Medical Officer of Health - Dr. J. Walker M.B., C.H.B., L.D.S., D.P.H., D.P.D.

Other Public Appointments.

M.O.H.	Chorley Borough.
M.O.H.	Leyland U.D.C.
M.O.H.	Longridge U.D.C.
M.O.H.	Preston R.D.C.
M.O.H.	Chorley R.D.C.
M.O.H.	Adlington U.D.C.
M.O.H.	Fulwood U.D.C.
M.O.H.	Walton-le-Dale U.D.C.

Divisional Medical Officer to the Health Division No. 4.
Lancashire County Council.

HEALTH INSPECTOR. C.H. Carr (Resigned 4/8/68)
A Part Time Officer holding the appointment as Surveyor.
R. Readfern (Appointed 1/9/68)

LABORATORY SERVICES.

The Public Health Laboratory Preston, is available for the examination of specimens for the diagnosis of cases of infectious diseases and for pathological specimens for ordinary disease.

Similar use of this laboratory is made for the bacteriological examination of samples of milk, water and ice-cream etc.

CHEST CLINIC. The Chest Clinic is at Chorley & District Hospital.
This clinic is a consultant Clinic for all chest conditions.

VENEREAL DISEASE CLINIC.

Held at Preston Royal Infirmary, Blackburn Royal Infirmary, and the Diagnostic Clinic, Civic Centre, Bolton, and the Wigan Royal Infirmary.

HOSPITAL FACILITIES.

Chorley and District Hospital.
Eaves Lane Hospital, Chorley.
Preston Royal Infirmary.
Blackburn Royal Infirmary.
Sharoe Green Hospital, Preston.
Isolation Hospital, Deepdale, Preston.
Heath Charnock Hospital.
All administered by the appropriate Hospital Management Committee under the Manchester Regional Board.

COUNTY HEALTH & WELFARE SERVICES

These services are administered by the Lancashire County Council.

AMBULANCE FACILITIES.

The County Ambulance Service is radio-controlled and all non-urgent requests for the service are made to Radio Control Headquarters. (Tel. Broughton 2678) The nearest ambulance station is in Preston Street, Chorley.

MIDWIFERY AND NURSING IN THE HOME.

The District Nursing Midwifery Sister (Mrs. H. Gibson) serving the area resides in Hoghton (Tel. Hoghton 699).

TREATMENT CLINIC FOR SCHOOLCHILDREN.

The 'Minor Ailment' clinic is held at the School Clinic, Collison Avenue, Chorley. Ancillary School Clinics (Orthopaedic, Dental, and Eye etc.) are also held and attended by Practitioners of Specialist Status. Attendance by appointment via School Medical Staff.

Ante Natal Clinics and Post Natal Clinics.

These Clinics are held on Thursdays at Collison Avenue, Chorley. They are attended by a Consultant obstetrician.

Maternity Beds.

Normal accommodation is available at Chorley District Hospital and Eaves Lane Hospital Chorley. Other Hospitals are also available.

Child Welfare.

A child welfare clinic is held fortnightly (Tuesday 2-4 p.m.) at the Withnell Conservative Club, and is attended by a Medical Officer of the Lancashire County Council, as well as the County Health Visitor. Ministry of Health Welfare Foods and other proprietary baby foods may be obtained from this clinic.

Health Visitors.

The County's Health Visitor for the area is Mrs. J. Smith who is available to give advice on all the County Health and Welfare Services. She is based at the School Clinic, Collison Avenue, Chorley Tel. 2709).

Home Helps.

A Home Help Service in cases of sickness, Maternity and Old Age is available in the area. Application for Home Helps should be made to The Divisional Medical Officer, Joint Divisional Offices, East Cliff, Preston, PR1 3JQ (Telephone: Preston 54868 Ext. 6411/6412).

TUBERCULOSIS.

The number of persons on the Tuberculosis Register at the end of the year was.

<u>Types of Tuberculosis</u>	1968	1967	1966	1965	1964	1963	1962
Respiratory	4	7	8	8	7	15	15
Non Respiratory	1	1	1	1	1	NIL	NIL

INFECTIOUS DISEASES

Persons suffering from infectious disease other than smallpox are normally admitted to Deepdale Isolation Hospital, Preston. Cases of Smallpox - there were none - would be admitted to Ainsworth Hospital, Bury.

No cases of infectious disease were notified during the year 1968. Two cases of measles were notified in the previous year.

The Public Health (Infectious Diseases) Regulations 1968 consolidated with amendments all previous Regulations relating to notification and prevention of infectious disease except the Public Health (Prevention of Tuberculosis) Regulations 1925.

The Health Services and Public Health Act 1968 covered various aspects of notification and prevention of infectious disease and food poisoning. The main amendments are - Tetanus and Yellow Fever were made notifiable for the first time in the Country as well as Leptospirosis which was previously notifiable only in certain areas. Infective jaundice was also made notifiable during the year.

Acute primary pneumonia, acute influenzal pneumonia, puerperal pyrexia, acute rheumatism, erysipelas and membranous croup ceased to be notifiable..

Drainage & Sewerage.

There are three sewage disposal works situated at Brinscall, Withnell Fold and Abbey Village respectively. Conditions at all three works are far from satisfactory and the Council's Consultant Engineer is still in the process of preparing a comprehensive scheme of Sewage Disposal for the whole district.

Closet Accommodation at the end of 1968.

Privy Middens	Nil
Pail Closets	27
Dry Ashpits	Nil
Moveable Ashbins	1110
Waste Water Closets	16
Fresh Water Closets	1210
Houses not on Water Carriage System	27

Public Cleansing.

This was carried out by direct labour using one vehicle, a side loading Karrier Bantom. Refuse was collected weekly and disposed of by tipping at Abbey Village. Conditions at the tip have not always been satisfactory and it is essential that more attention be paid to the method of refuse disposal.

Sanitary Inspection.

The approximate number of inspections for nuisances and defects during the year was 200 and this led to 30 nuisances or defects being discovered. One informal notice was served and no legal proceedings were instituted.

PEST CONTROL

No infestations of insects were found, although the old houses of all the new tenants of Council houses were inspected. Tenants who are apt to become lethargic are visited regularly and encouraged to keep their houses clean and tidy.

One of the sewerage attendants acts part-time as pest officer. His work is summarised as follows.

	Non-agricultural.	Agricultural.
No. of properties in district	1247	49
Total number of properties (including nearby premises) inspected following notification	29	-
No. infested by Rats	28	-
Mice	1	-
Total number of properties inspected for rats and/or mice for reasons other than notification	-	-
No. infested by Rats	-	-
Mice	-	-

Sewers were infested by rats during the year.

INSPECTION AND SUPERVISION OF FOOD

Slaughterhouse Facilities.

There are no public or private slaughterhouses in operation within the district.

Food Poisoning.

No cases of food poisoning were reported during the year.

Food Hygiene (General) Regulations 1960.

The number of food premises by type of business in the district at the end of 1968 was as follows:-

<u>Type of Business</u>	<u>No of Premises</u>
Greengrocers and provision dealers	12
Greengrocers and fruiterers (including those selling wet fish etc.)	2
Meat Shops (butchers, purveyors of cooked meats etc)	3
Bakers and/or confectioners	3
Fried fish shops	2
Shops selling mainly sugar confectionery, minerals etc.	4
Licensed premises, restaurants, cafes etc.	12

Ice Cream.

All ice cream sold is pre-packed and eight shops are registered for the sale of this commodity. No samples of ice cream were submitted for bacteriological examination during the year.

Water Supply.

The supply is obtained for the Liverpool Corporation Waterworks Undertaking from Withnell Reservoir (upland surface water) and from a borehole on Railway Road, Withnell.

1073 Dwelling houses and an estimated population of approximately 3,000 persons are supplied with this water.

27 Bacteriological examinations of water were carried out during the year of which 21 were satisfactory and 6 was unsatisfactory. The unsatisfactory reports were followed up and were found to be due to fluctuation in chlorination due to heavy rains and minor defects in the chlorinator.

The high acidity of the water obtained from Liverpool Corporation gives rise to plumbo solvency of quite a high degree and adjustment of the Ph level of the water which is approximately 6, to approximately 7.2 has removed this problem.

The water from the borehole on Railway Road is pumped direct to mains as this water is slightly alkaline and contains few suspended solids.

The present arrangements for the treatment of water going into supply cannot be regarded as satisfactory and early consideration should be given to a scheme of improvement.

SCHOOLS.

The total number of schools in the district at the end of 1967 was 4.

Sanitary Conditions of schools at the end of the Year:-

(a) Number of schools with unsatisfactory yard surface			NONE
(b) Sanitary accommodation. Number of schools with			
(1) Fresh water closets	4	(4) Pail Closets only	NIL
(2) Waste water closet only	NIL	(5) Privy Closets	NIL
(3) Trough closets	NIL	(6) Other types	NIL
(c) Drainage - No. of schools with drainage to:-			
(1) Public Sewer	4	(2) Private Treatment Wks	NIL
(d) Refuse Disposal - No. of schools with:-			
(1) Dustbins	4	(2) Dry Ashpits	NIL
(e) Water Supply - No. of schools with:-			
(1) Public Mains	4	(2) Private Supply	NIL
No of private supplies (e)(2) considered unsatisfactory			NIL
(f) No of schools where facilities are considered unsatisfactory for			
(1) Washing	NIL	(2) Drinking	NIL

School Meals.

Dining facilities and washing facilities are improving gradually in the schools throughout the district.

HOUSING & HOUSING CONDITIONS.

During the year 38 new houses were built by private enterprise; no new properties were completed by the Council.

No houses were demolished or closed as a result of action by the Council but six applications for Standard Grants were approved and in each case this was for improvement to the full standard.

There are still two occupied back-to-back houses, 27 houses with pail closets and 16 houses with waste water closets in the district.

There would appear to be a need for a housing survey to be carried out in order to determine which properties (if any) require action to be taken under the Housing Acts.

Swimming Baths & Pool.

The Council own the Brinscall Swimming Pool, which is 75' x 25', 5 slipper baths and 1 steam bath are available. Separate water closets are provided for each sex. Bathers have to use the spray baths before entering the swimming pool. The water is drawn from the public main, heated by an oil fired boiler, circulated once in 6 hours through 3 pressure sand filters and treated with sodium carbonate and chlorine. Samples are taken twice daily to ensure that the water has been adequately chlorinated.

Vaccination and Immunisation.

Smallpox Vaccinations	40 Complete Vaccinations. 1 Revaccinations.
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Polio Vaccinations	35 45 Reinforcements
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Children Immunised against Diphtheria	53
" " " Whooping Cough	48
" " " Tetanus	53
" " " Measles	41
" " " Diphtheria (Reinforcement)	80
" " " Whooping Cough	" -
" " " Tetanus	" 80

Prescribed Particulars on the Administration
of the Factories Act 1961

1 - INSPECTIONS for purposes of provisions as to health (including inspections made by Public Health Inspectors.

Premises	Number on Register	Inspections	Number of written Notices	Occupiers Prosecuted
(1)	(2)	(3)	(4)	(5)
(1) Factories in which Sections 1,2,3,4 & 6 are to be enforced by the Local Authorities.....	NIL	NIL	NIL	NIL
(2) Factories not included in (1) in which Section 7 is enforced by the Local Authority.....	17	17	NIL	NIL
(3) Other premises in which Section 7 is enforced by the Local Authority (excluding out-workers' premises).....	NIL	NIL	NIL	NIL
TOTAL	17	17	NIL	NIL

2 - Cases in which DEFECTS WERE found

(If defects are discovered at the premises on two, three or more separate occasions they should be reckoned at two, three or more "cases")

Number of cases in which defects
were found.

Particulars	Found	Remedied To	H.M. Inspector	Referred By H.M. Inspector	Number of cases in which prosecutions were instituted.
	(2)	(3)	(4)	(5)	(6)
Want of Cleanliness (S.1.)	NIL	NIL	NIL	NIL	NIL
Overcrowding (S.2.)	NIL	NIL	NIL	NIL	NIL
Unreasonable Temperature (S.3.)	NIL	NIL			
Inadequate ventilation (S.4.)	NIL	NIL			
Ineffective drainage of floors (S.6.)	NIL	NIL			
Sanitary conveniences (S.7.)					
(a) Insufficient	NIL	NIL			
(b) Unsuitable or defective	NIL	NIL			
(c) Not separate for sexes	NIL	NIL			
Other offences against the Act (not including offences relating to out-work)	NIL	NIL			
TOTAL	NIL	NIL	NIL	NIL	NIL

(b) Part VIII of the Act - Outwork: NIL.

